

# THE SANGUINIST

COLLEGE RELIGIOUS  
BULLETIN



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE  
COLLEGEVILLE, INDIANA

My Dear Students:

It is my fervent prayer that all the students may have a most happy Christmastide and I am glad to seize the opportunity offered by the Sanguinist to extend the most cordial Christmas Greetings to all the household of the College. I earnestly exhort all to importune the Prince of Peace for the gift of a speedy peace to our beloved country and to pray that the Christ Child may ever protect us and our country in the present crisis.

Sincerely,

*Aloys Dirksen, C.P.P.S.*



## Madonna and Child

Without Christ, without the beauteous vision of the Madonna and Child, there can be no Christmas. Take away the Mother and Child, and Christmas is robbed of its life and spirit; it becomes another holiday, a play-day for a godless world to drown its cares and troubles in a flood of tinsel and lights, and meaningless symbols.

With Christ, Christmas becomes the manifestation of God's unfailing kindness, the revelation of His eternal love, the culmination of all our hopes. It becomes the answer to all our prayers, the fulfillment of all our longings. Gazing upon the radiant vision of Madonna and Child, all creation can indeed cry out: "God has visited His people." Yes, a visitation whose import and meaning we cannot fully grasp for very joy as we listen with the shepherds to the angelic message: "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, that shall be to all the people; for this day is born to you a Savior who is Christ the Lord."

To the readers of the Sanguinist we extend wishes for a truly blessed Christmas. War may be all around us, but with the blessings of the Babe of Bethlehem, peace will reign in our hearts. No greater wish could we offer, no greater blessing could we invoke than that peace which is born of Sanctifying Grace.



## THIS WAR IS THE PASSION

For us, the war is the Passion of Christ. There is no need now to dwell on its cruelty; we shall not be able to forget that. To the natural eye it seems that out of this war nothing could possibly result but bitterness, hatred and ruin; and indeed, nothing else could result from it were it not for one Person—Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Because He has made us “other Christs,” because His life continues in each one of us, there is nothing that any of us can suffer which is not the Passion He suffered. Our redemption, although it was achieved completely by our Lord, does, by a special loving mercy of His, go on in us. It is one unbroken act which goes on in the mystical body of Christ on earth, which we are.

These things are mysterious, we can’t understand them without brains, but now everyone is going to learn to understand them in sorrow, in courage, and in sacrifice. Now the time has come for each of us to prove our Christhood.

Not one of us is alone. All are one in Christ, and we can be strong in the realization that we are together and that we share in all and every grace of one another. We are one, not only with each other, but with all the Church, the saints in Heaven, the faithful on earth and the souls in Purgatory, and we have, all of us, the strength of our adorned King, Christ, as our sword; His strength and His meekness, His love and His forgiveness.

Some of us, perhaps all of us, will feel sometimes hopelessly alone; certain griefs that we shall know make one utterly alone even in the midst of real friends; certain circumstances which will become fairly general give us the loneliness of homesickness, and events may cut us off from one another physically. But there is not a single thing that any one of us can do which does not affect every other Catholic, which is not, in a mysterious way, his deed too.



(Note: These are the opening paragraphs of the beautiful little book, just published by Sheed and Ward, Caryll House-lander’s “This War is the Passion.” It states clearly our position as followers of Christ in the present war, and we highly recommend it to every Catholic. For, “The ramparts of the spirit in the present horror . . . are worry, fear, anxiety, pain, separation and death, purified and santified by the blood of Christ. *It is the blessed hour when each Christian knows he must become a saint or perish.*”)

## Prayer In Time of War

O God, who bringest wars to naught and shieldest by Thy power all who hope in Thee, overthrowing those that assail them; help Thy servants who implore Thy mercy; so that the fierce might of their enemies may be brought low and we may never cease to praise and thank Thee. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



*The Sanguinist* herewith reprints the oration from the "Missa Votiva Tempore Belli," and asks that all St. Joseph's students save it, place it on their desks and whisper it fervently each day of the war. Peace cannot be achieved, national defense cannot succeed without the spiritual defense of prayer, sacrifice and union with Christ, the Prince of Peace.

